

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE
ON
FAMILIES AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

Wednesday, October 10, 2007

10:30 a.m.

Room 326 House Office Building

The House Standing Committee on Families and Children's Services was called to order by the Chair.

Members present: Reps. Clack, Dean, Accavitti, Hammon, Wojno, Sheen, Stahl, Hoogendyk.

Members absent/excused: Rep. Palmer.

Representative Accavitti moved to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2007 meeting. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

The Chair laid HB 4564 before the committee.

HB 4564 Steil

Family law; child custody; joint custody; mandate in every custody dispute between parents except in certain circumstances.

Ronald Smith of Children Need Both Parents submitted a card in support of the bill, but did not wish to testify.

Susan Thorman of the Friend of Court Association submitted a card indicating a neutral position on the bill, but did not wish to testify.

Patrick McCullough of the Michigan Probate Judges Association submitted a card in opposition to the bill, but did not wish to testify.

The following individuals submitted cards in support of reporting HB 4564 with the recommendation that the bill be referred to the Committee on Judiciary, but did not wish to testify:

Ron Hicks of the Michigan Department of Human Services.

Kathy Haginicon of the Michigan Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence.

Stephanie Wittke of the Michigan Advocacy Project.

Mary Lovik of the Michigan Domestic Violence Prevention and Treatment Board.

Representative Accavitti moved to report HB 4564 with the recommendation that the bill be referred to the Committee on Judiciary. **The motion prevailed 8-0-0.**

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL

Yeas: Reps. Clack, Dean, Accavitti, Hammon, Wojno, Sheen, Stahl, Hoogendyk.

Nays: None.

Pass: None.

Representative Hoogendyk moved to excuse the absence of Representative Palmer. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

There being no further business before the committee, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:48 a.m.

Representative Brenda Clack, Chair_____

Dan Stump, Committee Clerk

House Families and Children's Services Committee, (517) 373-5795